

REMARKS

Amendments

Amendments to the Claims

The claims are presented in this response as they were renumbered by the Examiner. Applicant has amended various dependent claims to correct improper antecedent basis caused by the renumbering and these claims are marked as "Currently amended." Claims that were renumbered by the Examiner but not amended by Applicant are marked as "Original."

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 3, 5, 6, 17, 18, 23-25 and 27 contain allowable subject matter if rewritten to include all the limitations of the claims from which they each originally depended.

Applicant has placed claim 3 in independent form and incorporated the limitations of claim 1 into claim 3. Applicant has further amended claim 3 to more particularly point out that the invention partitions anti-virus state information when storing the information in non-contiguous fields in a data structure. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 3, as amended, is allowable without the subject matter of claim 2 from which claim 3 originally depended. Claim 1 has been cancelled. Claims 2 and 5-12 have been amended to depend from claim 3 and thus also are allowable.

Independent claims 13 and 19 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 3 and the limitation of partitioning the anti-virus information when storing the information in non-contiguous filed. Thus, claims 13 and 19 are allowable, as are claims 14-18 and 20-25 that depend from claims 13 and 19 respectively.

Based on the Examiner's statement that claim 27 contains allowable subject matter, Applicant has placed claim 26 in independent form and incorporated the limitations of claim 26 into claim 27. Claims 26 and 28 have been cancelled.

SUMMARY

Claims 2-25 and 27 are currently pending. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application and allowance of the pending claims.

If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of these claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Sue Holloway at (408) 720-3476.

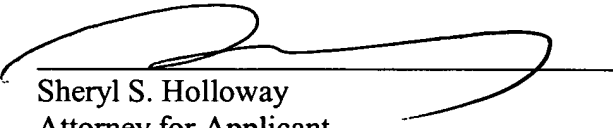
Deposit Account Authorization

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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